Meeting regarding National Slum Policy

521. VEN'BLE DHAMMAVIRIYO: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether three former Prime Ministers and the leaders of opposition parties met the Prime Minister this year in connection with National Slum Policy and the rehabilitation of slum dwellers who are inhabiting on Railway land;

(b) whether in that meeting he had assured that alternative site for the slum dwellers of Railway land will be provided; and

(c) if so, the action taken on the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Resettlements and rehabilitation, if any, of slum dwellers by providing alternate accommodation is the responsibility of the State Government. The policy of the Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation is to support the State Government's efforts in this regard.

That the problem pertaining to removal of jhuggies from railway lands would be looked into by the Minister for Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation was decided during a meeting taken by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in March, 2000. The issue arose as a result of 2736 encroachments in Wazirpur and Naraina Industrial Area covered by CWP No. 531/90-K.K. Manchanda *vs.* Union of India and Others., and CWP No. 364/97-Naraina Industries Association & Ors. *vs.* Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi & others regarding encroachment of railway land.

The Railway have been advised by the Minister of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation to deal with the problem in a phased manner and, in the first phase delineate the area required to be acquired on account of requirement of safety zones. The Hon'ble Railway Minister has already agreed to the relocation as per the policy being followed in Delhi.

Slum development fund for Mumbai

522. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allocated money for slum development for Mumbai;